

## Health Services Keeps Growing; Additional Physician Joins Staff

There is a lot of it going around—"it" being colds, flu, stomachaches, sinus problems, and the like—passed around in close quarters among students, faculty, and staff. Factor in the active, healthy ones with twists, sprains, cuts, and bruises, and that mix makes for a hectic time for the healthcare provider on campus—University Health Services.

Demand for health services has increased in the last few months. In October, there were 1,700 patient visits. Patient load in November and December was down because of the holidays, but December numbers still show 972 visits, said Deborah Beck, director of health services.

One of the steps taken to handle a larger number of patients was the implementation of a system allowing patients to make appointments. Still, fifty-one percent of the patients are walk-ins.

Taking care of this ever-increasing patient load are a number of healthcare providers at the center. "The staff has

been great in handling the overflow of patients. They are all very competent, and I really appreciate the dedication they have shown," said Beck.

The staff includes one full-time and one part-time physician's assistant, one laboratory technician, a nutritionist, four full-time nurses, two part-time nurses, one full-time and a part-time medical records person, an office manager, a housekeeper, and a director. Also included in health services is the emergency ambulance crew, which has between fifteen and eighteen emergency medical technicians. Jeff Davis has been the only full-time staff physician at the center.

However, a second physician has just been added.

Anthony Esterwood graduated from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 1987 and is certified by the American Board of Family Practice. Esterwood has experience as an emergency room physician and as an outpatient family practice physician. "I went into college health because I enjoy the dynamic energy level found on a college campus," said Esterwood. Both Davis and Esterwood will be working at the health center at the same time.



**Anthony Esterwood, M.D.**

"With Dr. Esterwood on staff now, we will be able to see more patients in less time. It will be a tremendous help," said Beck.

University Health Services is planning to move into new facilities in the Bird Building sometime in May. "Being closer to the main part of campus, we are anticipating seeing more students because of the convenience," said Beck. She indicated that most of their student patients live in the residence halls on the main part of campus. The more prominent facility also will be more accessible for faculty and staff, she said.

### Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award Finalists Announced

Five faculty members have been named finalists for the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award.

A reception introducing the finalists will be held Monday, February 3, at 3:30 p.m. in the Grandroom of the University Center.

The finalists are:

- Aaron Ball, associate professor, engineering technology;
- Julia Barnes, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science;
- Mimi Fenton, associate professor of English;
- Angela Grube, assistant professor of health and human performance;
- Will Peebles, associate professor of music.

The recipient will be announced at the spring awards convocation and receive a \$1,000 honorarium and an engraved plaque.

# Gannett Foundation Awards Grant To Western's Black Theatre Ensemble

Western's Black Theatre Ensemble is the recipient of a \$3,270 grant from the Gannett Foundation to assist in the expansion of the organization's mission of sharing the African-American experience through performance.

The grant was facilitated by the *Asheville Citizen-Times*, part of the Gannett family of newspapers, and was announced recently by Laurel Vartabedian, assistant professor of communication and theatre arts and faculty adviser to the Black Theatre Ensemble.

"The communication and theatre arts department and the BTE organization are grateful for the support of the Gannett Foundation," Vartabedian said. "I believe the grants committee recognized the importance of this program, and they can be assured that students will put the grant to great use."

The Black Theatre Ensemble was founded in 1986 by Al Wiggins, who retired in 2001 from the Western faculty and was recognized for contributions to human relations in the state with a North Carolina Governor's Award for Excellence. The ensemble typically performs one production per semester on the WCU campus, and has taken its shows on the road throughout the South and Midwest in past years.

Funded by student fees and ticket sales from its performances, the group has accomplished a great deal with very little financial support over the years, said Vartabedian. "This grant effectively doubles our budget, so we are all pretty excited about it," she said.

Vartabedian wrote the grant proposal after the ensemble's biggest endeavor to date—last spring's production of the musical *Ain't Misbehavin'*.

That show, which featured the music of Fats Waller, played to standing-room-only audiences and spawned a renewed interest in Waller's music on the campus, she said. It also prompted the group to seek additional outside funding to enhance its programming, expand its outreach to the region and the state through performances in kindergarten-through-twelfth grade schools, pay the higher royalty fees necessary to do top-quality shows, and bring in guest artists to share their talents with ensemble members and audiences.

Former Broadway actor Rudy Roberson, who recently moved to Western North Carolina, has joined the theatre arts faculty as a part-time instructor this semester and will serve as faculty director for the Black Theatre Ensemble for the spring.

The Gannett Foundation, a corporate foundation sponsored by Gannett Company, Inc., serves local organizations in those communities in which Gannett has a local daily newspaper or television station. The program makes contributions through grants and a matching gifts program to qualified nonprofit organizations to improve the education, health, and advancement of the people who live in those communities.

For more information about the Black Theatre Ensemble, contact the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts at 227-7491.

## WCU Authorized to Offer State's Only Emergency Management Program

Recognizing the need for increasingly sophisticated training for the next generation of emergency and disaster responders, Western Carolina University will begin offering the first bachelor's degree program in emergency management available in North Carolina and most surrounding Southeastern states.

Approval of the new degree program came during The University of North Carolina Board of Governors meeting January 10 in Chapel Hill.

"Disasters have occurred since biblical times and, in one form or another, have impacted or affected almost every region on earth," said Bernard J. Dougherty, assistant professor of criminal justice who is developing the new program in emergency management. "Despite this fact, a formal academic approach toward

preventing, mitigating, managing and recovering from disasters—both natural and man-made—only recently began. And, in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001, offering students an opportunity to pursue careers in this field has taken on new importance."

In spite of the growing need, fewer than a dozen institutions of higher education in the United States currently offer four-year degrees in emergency management. None of them are in North or South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, or Tennessee, said Dougherty, who came to Western after nearly thirty years in federal law enforcement, where he focused on anti-terrorism and vulnerability assessments.

Western's program, expected to begin accepting students during the 2003-2004

academic year, is designed to prepare graduates who will be immediately productive in the field of emergency management at the municipal, state, and federal levels.

Approval of the degree program comes in the midst of an increased emphasis on national security interests, including President Bush's call for additional funding for "homeland defense" initiatives.

B. Wayne Blanchard, higher education project manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Emmitsburg, Maryland, said Western's program meshes perfectly with FEMA's goal of expansion of hazard, disaster, and emergency management-related education in colleges and universities across the United States. "Even before the attacks in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania, we were

*continued on page 4*

## Blood Drive

**Tuesday–Thursday**

**February 4–6**

**12:30–6 p.m.**

**Grandroom, UC**

**Daily goal—100 units**

### Monday, February 3

Reception—Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award finalists, 3:30 p.m., Grandroom, UC.

Lady Catamount basketball—vs. Wofford, Southern Conference game, 7 p.m., RRAC. (227-7338)

Concert—WCU Jazz Ensemble, 8 p.m., RH. (227-7242)

### Tuesday, February 4

Training Tuesday—"Time Management I: Taking Control of Your Workday"

# WCU Calendar

February 3–16, 2003

Look for regular updates on the university's Web site at [www.wcu.edu/cal.html](http://www.wcu.edu/cal.html)

will emphasize effective time management by discussing how to get the right things done during the workday. Professional Development Track, 6 credits. First of three sessions. Participants must attend all three sessions to receive credits, 2–4:30 p.m., Room 404, BB. (227-2388)

### Wednesday, February 5

Workshop—van safety course for all employees (including student employees) who plan to drive 15-passenger vans and who have not previously had the course. Registration required. 2:30–4:00 p.m., Room 404, BB. ([www.wcu.edu/hr/training](http://www.wcu.edu/hr/training) or 227-2388)

### Thursday, February 6

Concert—Renowned trumpeter Charles Lazarus, 8 p.m., RH. (227-3274)

### Saturday, February 8

Open house—for prospective students and their families. Registration 9 a.m., RRAC. (227-7317)

Catamount basketball—vs. UNC Greensboro, Southern Conference game, 7 p.m., RRAC. (227-7338)

### Tuesday, February 11

Training Tuesday—"Time Management II: Taking Control of Your Workday" will continue the emphasis on effective time management by discussing how to get the right

things done during the workday. Second of three sessions, 2–4:30 p.m., Room 404, BB. (227-2388)

### Wednesday, February 12

Last Minute Productions concert—Kentucky-based country music duo Montgomery Gentry, Country Music Association's duo of the year for 2000, 8 p.m., RRAC. \$ (Information, 227-7206; tickets, 227-7722 or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com), 800-332-5200)

### Friday, February 14

Workshop—Department heads, 3–5 p.m., Hospitality Room, RRAC. (227-7495)

### Saturday, February 15

Lady Catamount basketball—vs. East Tennessee State, Southern Conference game, 2 p.m., RRAC. (227-7338)

### Sunday, February 16

Lecture—"Under Their Own Vine and Fig Tree: Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Church, 1867–2002," by Linda Culpepper, 3 p.m., MHC. (227-7129)

## ★ ★ ★ Now Showing ★ ★ ★

### Exhibitions:

**North Carolina Women Making History.** The trials, triumphs, and changing roles of women during the past 400 years. Through December. MHC. (227-7129)

**Migration of the Scotch-Irish People.** (Permanent exhibition). Information, illustrations, artifacts, and murals. MHC. (227-7129)

**Asheville Quilt Guild Presents.** Colorful array of traditional, art, antique, and award-winning quilts made by members of Asheville Quilt Guild. Through March 31, MHC. (227-7129)

**By Design: Alumni Design Exhibition.** Through February 26, Belk Gallery, BB. (227-3591)

**Justice Runs Down Like Water.** Paintings and calligraphy by Kichung Lizeé. Through February 6. Chelsea Gallery, UC. (227-7206)

**Sculpture Class Installation.** Opening February 12; through March 12. Opening reception February 12, 4–6 p.m. Chelsea Gallery, UC. (227-7206)

### Submissions:

Send news items and calendar notices to WCU Calendar, 1601 Ramsey Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina 28723 or e-mail to [Reporter@email.wcu.edu](mailto:Reporter@email.wcu.edu).

Submit items for the university's online calendar at least one week prior to the event.

**Key:** \$ - Admission fee; HA - Hoey Auditorium; HFR - H.F. Robinson Administration Building; HS/CF - Hennon Stadium/Childress Field; MHC - Mountain Heritage Center; NSA - Natural Sciences Auditorium; RRAC - Ramsey Regional Activity Center; RH - Recital Hall, Coulter Building; BB - Belk Building; UC - A.K. Hinds University Center; UOC - University Outreach Center; WS/BW - Whitmire Stadium/Bob Waters Field; SSF - Shrader Soccer Field.

# Student Recruitment Video Wins Award of Excellence

A video produced by Western's Office of Public Information and used by the Office of Admissions as part of efforts to recruit new students has won recognition from a national higher education organization.

John M. Kenyon, information and communication specialist for the Office of Public Information, received an award of excellence from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for his work as videographer and editor for the "Power Your Mind" video.

The video features images of campus life set to the tune of an uptempo version of the classic pop song "I Can See Clearly Now." It is shown during "Western On Tour," an annual multi-city traveling show designed to give prospective students and their families a first-hand look at Western's campus and the university environment.

The award will be presented as part

of the CASE District III conference in Atlanta February 23-26.

The recent honor marks Kenyon's second consecutive award of excellence in the annual CASE District III competition. He also received an award last year for his work on a video compact disc promoting Western's Outreach Center as an ideal location for conferences and meetings in the Western North Carolina region.

CASE is the leading education association for professionals in the field of institutional advancement.

## Kneedler Child Center To Host Celebration

The Kneedler Child Development Center staff will host a reception to celebrate the center's one-year anniversary on Wednesday, February 5, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Faculty and staff are invited to drop by the center for cake, cookies, and punch.

## Emergency...

*continued from page 2*

becoming a more vulnerable society faced with growing threats, new and evolving hazards, and more people at risk," Blanchard said. "We will need a new generation of more professional and diverse and better-educated emergency managers, in both the public and private sectors, and more 'disaster sensitive' professionals in other fields to better face the challenges posed."

In addition to positions with federal, state, and municipal agencies, graduates may find careers with a variety of non-governmental agencies, including the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, and others engaged in domestic and international disaster response and relief; and in the corporate and industrial sectors, which have a growing need for specialists in preventing, mitigating, containing, responding to and recovering from disasters.

For information on the new emergency management program, contact Bernard Dougherty at 227-2328 or via e-mail at [bdougherty@email.wcu.edu](mailto:bdougherty@email.wcu.edu).

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